on poor/informal sector. It reveals that in 2004-2005, out of India's total workforce of 457.5 million, 92% or 422.6 million worked in unorganized economy *i.e.* informal sector. In case of gender break-up, the figure was 90.7% for male and 95.9% for female workforce respectively.

(d) and (e) The India Urban Poverty Report 2009, launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, critically analyses the gender dimension of urban poverty in one of its chapters. The report says that women in urban areas are affected due to poverty as well as gender discriminations. The analysis made in the chapter, based on data over 1993-1994 and 2004-2005, emphasizes the need for a specific focus on urban poor women, given the increasing incidence of poverty in terms of absolute numbers of poor women and their high compound growth rate. Further the Head Count Ratio (HCR) of poverty among female headed households is higher in urban areas when compared to male headed householders.

With regard to the schemes targeting women urban poor, the Urban Women Self-help Programme (UWSP) component of the revamped Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) targets the urban poor women for assistance in setting up group enterprises as well as support in the form of revolving fund for Self-help groups/Thrift and Credit Societies for meeting their micro-credit needs. Also 30% of the beneficiaries under the Urban Self Employment Programme (targeting individual urban poor for setting up micro-enterprises) and Skill training for Employment Promotion amongst Urban Poor (STEP-UP) components of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) must be women.

Slums in metropolitan cities

†2174. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of slums present in the metropolitan and big cities has been assessed;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) this number five years ago and what would be their number after five years; the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) Urban development/slum being a State subject, it is upto concerned States/cities to assess the details regarding the number of slums in metropolitan cities and big cities of the country. No such assessment about the number of slums is available with this Ministry. Data on the number of slums and other relevant details are maintained by respective States/Municipal Authorities.

Urban wage employment programme

2175. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether urban wage employment programme is being implemented in the urban local bodies of the State of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of socially and economically useful public assets created during the last five years, year-wise; and

(d) the details of wages paid to the labourers during the last five years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) The Urban Wage Employment Programme (UWEP) component of the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) is being implemented in all urban local bodies in the country, including that of West Bengal, where the population of a town/city is less than five lakhs as per the 1991 census.

(c) and (d) The progress of the scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) is monitored at the Central level through the Quarterly Progress Reports (QPRs) received from the States/UTs, which provide cumulative data since the inception of the scheme and upto the last quarter of a particular year. Under the Urban .Wage Employment Programme (UWEP) component the data received in the Quarterly Progress Reports from the States indicates the cumulative expenditure made in this component, total number of mandays of work generated under the programme (cumulative) and prevalent rate of minimum wages in the State. As per the Quarterly Progress Report received from the State Government of West Bengal for the Quarter ending 31st March, 2009 these details are as under:—

Total expenditure incurred in the UWEP component.	—	Rs. 20403.30 lakhs
Total number of mandays of work generated.	—	Rs. 93.31 lakhs
The prevailing rate of minimum wages in the State.	—	Rs. 100/-

Urban poverty alleviation

2176. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the poverty ratio in urban areas of the country as of now, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that slums in the urban areas of the country remain without any significant change despite the claims of Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the steps being taken/proposed to be taken for the alleviation of poverty in urban areas of the country;

(d) whether any specific steps are proposed to be taken by Government for the hygienic environment in slum areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Planning Commission releases estimates of urban poor from time to time based on the